action, to submit Insitutional Development Plans for finalising the selection of remaining 300 ITIs to be upgraded in the next three years.

(c) Industry/Industry Association in the form of Institute Management Committees (IMCs) have been involved in all aspects of trainings in these ITIs, such as identification of sectors to be taken up, development of course curriculum, and to bring all round improvement in the functioning of ITIs.

(d) The trainees of the first batch were admitted in August, 2005 and are scheduled to complete their training in July, 2007.

**Survey of child labourers**

4532. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been done to identify the exact number of child labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government plan to do so soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Census conducted by the Registrar General of India is the only authentic data in respect of population of child labour in the country. As per the Census 2001, the number of child labour in the country is 1.26 crore.

(c) In additon, Government proposes to conduct a national level survey to assess the number of child labour in the country.

**Non-payment of Provident Fund arrears paid by companies**

4533. SHRI. ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of companies are reportedly not making payment of Provident Fund arrears to their employees despite repeated reminders;